

Minutes
Human Services Commission
Thursday, September 11, 2003
5:00 P.M.
Kiva – City Hall
3939 Drinkwater Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Present: Chairwoman Fausel, Vice-Chair Bachmann, Commissioners Bilsens, Bitenc, Coudroglou, Reid and Resnick

Staff Present: Connie James, Mark Bethel, Donna Brower, Dawn Cagan, Jan Cameron, Vicki French, Phil Hershkowitz, Valerie Kime Trujillo, Rita Koppinger, Paul Ludwick, Tim Miluk and Mary Kay Rieke

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Fausel called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 29, 2003 MEETING

Commissioner Bitenc moved for approval of the May 29, 2003 meeting minutes; Commissioner Bilsens seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION AND RECOGNITION OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Connie James, Human Services Director, welcomed back the commissioners and asked that they introduce themselves. Commissioners then gave introductions and discussed their backgrounds.

HUMAN SERVICES FISCAL YEAR UPDATE 2002-2003 PRESENTATION

Connie James, Human Services Director, introduced the Human Services 2002-2003 Fiscal Year Presentation. She discussed the Community Services Department and where the Human Services Commission falls within that Department. She also discussed the Human Services Organizational Chart.

Ms. James then introduced Rita Koppinger, Human Services Manager for Vista Del Camino, beginning the presentation by staff and discussing the 2002-2003 fiscal year update for Vista Del Camino. Ms. Koppinger discussed staff, the Vista 30 year anniversary, Back to School program, food programs and the income, age and ethnicity of citizens served. Highlights of that report were: 33,364 contacts; 600 children outfitted in the Back to School Program, providing financial assistance to 418 families to prevent eviction and homelessness; and utility assistance to 797 families who faced shut-off notices; distribution of 2,094 food boxes and clothing to 5,911 individuals; distribution of 50,000 pounds of bread; and 4,883 client appointments, 500 more than last year. In addition, Vista provided services at the Paiute Neighborhood Center one day a week and a half day at the Via Linda Senior Center. Of the client that Vista sees, 38% live in zip code 85257, 40% in the Paiute area, 15% north of Camelback, and 5% are homeless individual or transients.

Ms. Koppinger introduced Mary Kay Rieke, Human Services Manager, who gave the 2002-2003 fiscal update for the Paiute Neighborhood Center. Ms. Rieke discussed staff, the opening of the new senior center on October 16 of this year, the age and income of citizens served and the

types of services provided. Highlights of that report were: Scottsdale South YMCA Early Childhood Learning Center provided 2,805 hours of affordable day care for kids 3 to 5 years old; the Paiute Neighborhood Center After-School and Summer programs provided services for 591 youth ages 6 through 12 and Paiute, Scottsdale South YMCA and Scottsdale Center for the Arts collaborated to provide art workshops for at-risk kids, taught by artists from the Artist in Residence Program.

Ms. Rieke introduced Vicki French, Human Services Manager, who gave the 2002 - 2003 fiscal update for the Youth and Family Services Office. Ms. French discussed staff, the age distribution of clients and the citizens served. Highlights of the report were: the YouthWorks program teaming with General Dynamics to form a mentoring program, where 10 at-risk teenagers were mentored by General Dynamics staff; the Ready to Learn Initiative to support the importance of Early Childhood Brain Development and the Trust, Responsibility and Leadership program in collaboration with the City of Scottsdale Recreation Staff to give teens cooperation skills and exercises in leadership.

Ms. French introduced Tim Miluk, Human Services Manager, who gave the 2002-2003 fiscal update for the Civic Center Senior Center. Mr. Miluk discussed staff, age and income of clients served and the services provided. Highlights of the report were: planning and development for the new senior center on Granite Reef; transportation education for seniors, the Mother's Day Tea, Entertainment Extravaganza and Karaoke Nights.

Mr. Miluk introduced Jan Cameron, Human Services Manager, who gave the 2002 - 2003 fiscal update for the Via Linda Senior Center. Ms. Cameron discussed staff, income and age of participants, the completion of the Desert Garden Center, volunteers. Highlights of the report were: growth of 50% in class participation, the Beat the Heat program receiving over \$10,000 of cash donations, in addition to food donations; community education and outreach opportunities, including the staff created Newcomers Group, where information about Via Linda is imparted to new members of the community. The group is so successful it was recognized by the City Manager. Ms. Cameron also discussed that over 3,000 people participated in the various trips, events and classes offered at the center.

Ms. Cameron introduced Mark Bethel, Community Assistance Manager, who gave the 2002 - 2003 fiscal update for the Community Assistance Office (CAO), brokerage agencies, General Funds and the Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Bethel discussed staff, and the income, ethnicity and those over the age of 62 clients served by the Community Assistance Office. Highlights of the reports were: 617 families received housing assistance; CAO received 25 additional Section 8 Housing Choice vouchers; ten people earned \$95,000 in escrow funds through the Family Self Sufficiency Program; 33 clients were assisted in the Job Prep Program; 48 clients were assisted by the Family Self Sufficiency Program and 68 families received housing rehabilitation and emergency repair assistance. .

Mr. Bethel introduced Valerie Kime Trujillo, Resource Development Specialist, who gave the 2002 - 2003 fiscal update for the Scottsdale Cares and Volunteer programs. Ms. Trujillo discussed that the Scottsdale Cares Utility Donation Program and that it had 31,102 households donate a total of \$146,000 with the final Arizona Republic Charities match of \$73,000. She discussed the history of Scottsdale Cares Funding and the agencies funded in fiscal year 02-03. Ms. Kime Trujillo said that 02/03 was the last year that the Arizona Republic Charities would provide a match to Scottsdale Cares. However, General Dynamics donated \$12,000.

Ms. Kime Trujillo also discussed the Human Services Volunteers, the largest corps in the city at 857, donating a total of 58,453 hours. These hours equal 29 full-time positions with a cost savings to the city of \$908,359. Ms. Trujillo discussed the volunteers at each center and the dedicated volunteerism of the Human Services Commission.

Connie James completed the presentation by highlighting the issues Human Services is dealing with in the coming year:

Vice Chair Bachmann asked if over 2,000 food boxes were distributed in fiscal year 02/03, what is the current state of the food pantry. Ms. Koppinger stated that the food bank is doing pretty well, but Vista is just beginning their most difficult time of the year – prior to the holidays – and the next few weeks will be difficult. She added that the food bank always needs cereal and peanut butter. Vice Chair Bachmann asked where people could donate to the Food Bank. Ms. Koppinger said that donations are accepted at Vista del Camino from 8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday and at Via Linda Senior Center from 8 am to 5 pm as well as Saturday.

REVIEW OF ANNUAL DRAFT AGENDAS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003 - 2003

Connie James reviewed the Draft Agendas with the Commission, indicating a few change. The meeting on September 25 will be a joint meeting with the Housing Board and the Community Facilities Master Plan would not be on the October 9 agenda, as it is on this evening's agenda. Also, at the November 13, 2004 meeting, there will be a presentation from the Department of Economic Security. Ms. James ended by indicating the dates scheduled for the funding hearings (February 2 and 4) and if there are any conflicts to please contact here as soon as possible.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

Don Penfield, Department Advisor/Community Services, briefed the commission on the Community Services Facilities Master Plan. Mr. Penfield then introduced, Charlie Deans, a consultant from Planners Ink who gave a more in depth review of the plan and the most recent updates.

Vice Chair Bachmann asked about the population in Planning Zone A and if its decline was because single-family dwellings are being replaced by apartments. Mr. Deans stated that the conversion of residential areas to nonresidential and redevelopment in that area are the primary reasons for the decrease in population and that will continue in the next 20 years.

Chairwoman Fausel called for a motion to take the Community Services Facilities Master Plan forward to the City Council. Commissioner Bilsens moved and Commissioner Coudroglou seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

Connie James discussed the next meeting on September 25, which will be held at the Via Linda Senior Center and will be a joint meeting with the Housing Board. She then introduced Tim Miluk who updated the Commission on the following:

Human Services Administration - This quarter, the Human Services cable show "Helping Hands" features members of the Yaqui community and the new Yaqui community book, "The Yaquis of Scottsdale: Family, Indomitable Spirit, Generosity". **Civic Center Senior Center** - The Annual (20th year!) Senior Center Arts and Crafts Fair will be held on Saturday, November 22 from 9 am to 3 pm, and the Annual Thanksgiving dinner will take place on November 21. **Community Assistance Office** - As of August 1, 2003, 627 individuals and families are receiving housing assistance from the Section 8 Program, representing an increase of 36 families from last year's August 2002 total of 591 families. Currently, there are 160 clients on the Waiting List, while 30 applicants were pulled from the Waitlist and are going through the eligibility process. The City of Scottsdale will host the Annual FSS East Valley Alliance (EVA) Graduation And Award Ceremony on Wednesday, October 8 at the Civic Center Library Auditorium. The graduation will recognize the graduates and participants from the cities of Scottsdale, Tempe, Chandler, and Mesa. **Paiute Neighborhood Center** - September 9, 2003 was the opening of our new senior activity center and a Grand Opening to be held on October 16. There is a need for volunteers to assist with activities and programs. If you are interested, please call Alex Quintana at 480-312-0006. **Via Linda Senior Center** - Dawn Cagan is Via Linda's new Human Services Coordinator and Greg Bestgen is joining our team as Human Services Specialist. Summer Excursions: 27 activities were held with 264 participants. **Vista del Camino** - One hundred and fifty-one households received assistance in June and July compared to 118 served during those two months last year. In August, Vista del Camino's Back to School Program provided clothing, shoes, backpacks and school supplies to 610 children. Seventy-four volunteers contributed 371 hours helping sort and distribute items. In addition, 21 hairstylists provided 180 haircuts. **Youth and Family Services** - Youth and Family Services staff has developed a survey in order to determine the after-school needs of the community. The Scottsdale Unified School District has agreed to send it out to parents of children enrolled at various schools. Staff is also working with the city's Communications and Public Affairs and Information Systems in order to survey city employees who have school age children. Both surveys are in partnership with Parks Recreation and Facilities, and the Arizona School-age Advisory Council. General Dynamics hosted a terrific evening event for some of the YouthWorks participants. The evening was full of presentations and inspiring life stories geared toward the teens. Various mentors from General Dynamics spoke of their life experiences and the importance of making positive choices. Former Miss Arizona (Laura Lawless) presented on the impact of depression on one's life and how to identify the symptoms. A local culinary expert presented on proper dinner etiquette, and the General Dynamics culinary staff served a seven-course gourmet meal. One of the teen participants entertained guests by playing the violin. To top off this wonderful evening, a great article was written by the East Valley Tribune capturing the excitement and importance of this dinner.

Connie James discussed Bashas' promotion "Half A Million Thank Yous!", where those who shop at Bashas' from now until the end of the year and give the cashier the number "28841" Bashas' will donate 1% of the total bill to Vista del Camino, up to \$2,500. Ms. James indicated that the goal is to receive all of the \$2,500 for Vista.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Chairwoman Fausel made an open call to the public for comments/questions/announcements or other business. There were no replies.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be brought before the commission, Chairwoman Fausel asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bitenc moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Coudroglou seconded. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Beth Bossert, Recording Secretary.

Meets established criteria.

Connie James
Director, Human Services